

1925

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

OF THE

Warrington Rural District Council

BY

JAMES BENNETT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Also the Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector,
MR. F. W. KERFOOT.

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1926.

WARRINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman :

Mr. G. P. GREENWAY, J.P., Winwick-with-Hulme.

Vice-Chairman :

Mr. C. E. PARKER, J.P., Penketh.

Councillors :

Names.				Township.
Rev. A. M. MITCHELL	...	...	...	BURTONWOOD.
Mr. H. B. WRIGHT	...	...	...	CUERDLEY.
Mr. J. W. KNOWLES	...	...	...	HOUGHTON, MYDDLETON & ARBURY.
Mr. T. B. DUCKWORTH	...	...	...	POULTON-WITH-FEARNHEAD.
Mr. J. BRIDGE	...	...	...	RIXTON-WITH-GLAZEBROOK.
Mr. WILLIAM FURNESS, J.P.	...	...	...	SANKEY.
Mr. G. BERRY	...	...	...	SOUTHWORTH-WITH-CROFT.
Rev. H. AINSCOUGH	...	...	...	WOOLSTON-WITH-MARTINSCROFT.

Officials :

Mr. E. J. SUTTON, *Clerk.*

Mr. B. S. NEWCOMBE, *Surveyor.*

Mr. H. H. BURNAGE, *Assistant Surveyor.*

Dr. J. BENNETT, *Medical Officer.*

Mr. F. W. KERFOOT, *Sanitary Inspector.*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1925.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WARRINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my 3rd Annual Report, combined with a summary of the work done in the administration of your Health Department during the last five years, this being a Survey Report in accordance with instructions received from the Ministry of Health, covering the quinquennium 1920-25.

It is only possible for me to speak with personal knowledge as your Medical Officer of Health for exactly half of the quinquennium 1920-25, my appointment dating from July, 1922.

The duties of Sanitary Inspector have been assiduously and progressively carried out by Mr. F. W. Kerfoot, whose knowledge gained from the occupancy of this office for many years has been invaluable in contributing to the smooth working of Health matters when changes in the officialate have been necessary.

The transference to new offices in Museum Street in December, 1924, after being located in Bewsey Street since the formation of District Councils, has made it possible to keep all documents relating to Public Health on your own premises, and all administration is now done from that address. This has facilitated the ever-growing work of the Department, which the progressive legislation of the last few years has necessitated.

The rate of progress in Public Health matters and the enlightenment of the population in the prevention of disease, though much accelerated since the War, is still slower than it need be, and the slogan of " Self-Help in Health " is worthy of the widest application.

Many advancements, however, tending to improve the health and well-being of the community have been effected during the last five years. Among these may be mentioned a considerable extension of pressure-fed water supplies, the Council control of refuse removal in several townships, closer inspection and greater cleanliness of meat, the regular testing of milk for Tuberculosis, the lessening of the dust danger by better surfacing of roads, the conversions of privy middens to pails and where possible to fresh water closets, details of all of which will be found in subsequent pages.

NEW LEGISLATION.

In 1921 the Sanatorium Benefit (Nat. Insurance Act, 1920) was transferred from the National Health Insurance Committees to the County Health Authorities. Notifications of all cases come into the hands of local Medical Officers of Health and all details are now sent on weekly to the County Medical Officer.

Following on the above legislation there has come into operation :

1. THE TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1924.

This was designed with a view to bringing the number of names on Tuberculosis Registers more in accordance with facts by requiring a quarterly return to be transmitted from all areas to the County Medical Officer of Health showing the number of names on the Registers at the beginning of a quarter, the number added to and taken off during the quarter, and the number remaining on at the end of the quarter. This has meant much time being given to it by your Health Officers, as every name which had been entered in and not subsequently written off your Registers required personal investigation, right back to the commencement of the Tuberculosis Order, 1912. As a result of over 250 enquiries, 147 names have been written off, and there remained on the books at the end of the year 107 pulmonary and 37 non-pulmonary cases.

2. THE MEAT REGULATIONS AND RURAL DISTRICT (SLAUGHTER-HOUSES) ORDER, 1924, came into operation on April 1st, 1925.

This is designed to procure cleaner and more wholesome meat, and necessitates the giving notice to the appointed officer of your Council of intention to slaughter animals intended for sale for human consumption. This has added greatly to the work of the Health Department, as not only bovines but pigs on private premises are included. A very large number of inspections have been made.

3. THE MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915, deferred owing to the War, came into operation on September 1st, 1925.

This prevents the sale of tuberculous milk and the removal from one district to another, without the consent of the Local Authority, of animals found to be giving tuberculous milk ; and also provides for the slaughter and post-mortem inspection of such animals. Perhaps the most helpful clause of all is the one which provides for compensation to the owner. The probable effect of this will be that owners will give earlier notice than hitherto of suspicious cases, and thus prevent much tuberculous milk being distributed to the public.

Though the County Council and Police are responsible for the following-up of these cases, the work of discovering such as are not voluntarily notified will lie with the District Health Department and also adds its quota of new work.

It would seem that procedure for dealing more expeditiously with such cases could be devised, and thus save expense to the farmer, who has to keep the affected cow during the protracted negotiations, but cannot sell its milk.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925.

Such sections as can be have been adopted and will come into force during 1926.

Among the many matters dealt with in this Report are the following :—

A.—DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT.

Population, Census 1921, 12,260 ; 1925, 13,100. Acreage, 18,955.

The district is situated on the Northern side of the River Mersey, is mostly flat, with a subsoil of clay in the Western portion and some moss land in the Eastern. The district is bounded in the South by the River Mersey and Warrington County Borough—in the West by Widnes Borough, Whiston R.D.C. and St. Helens—in the North by Newton U.D.C. and Leigh R.D.C.—and in the East by Leigh R.D.C. and Irlam U.D.C. From East to West it is about 12 miles across and from South to North about 5 miles.

The Industries in the district are Farming, Coal Mining, Chemical, Lead Manufacture, Wire-drawing, Tanning, Animal Bye-products, and others such as Cycle, Motor, Tool-making, Brick-making, &c.

B.—POPULATION.

1. The Registrar-General has estimated an increase of the District population this year from 12,830 to 13,100, an increase of 270.

2. In addition, the population of the County Mental Hospital, Winwick, was on December 31st, 1925, 2,511, made up as follows :—

				Male.	Female.		
Staff	...	...	...	83	180	...	263
Patients	...	...	...	1028	1070	...	2098
Resident on Estate	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
							<hr/> 2511 <hr/>

There was an increase of 308 during the year following increases of 256 and 323 in the two previous years.

All notifications of notifiable Infectious Diseases and all Deaths occurring in the Institution pass through the District Council Registers.

3. The District population has varied as follows during the last five years :—

1921	...	...	...	12,260
1922	...	...	...	12,320
1923	...	...	...	12,530
1924	...	...	...	12,830
1925	...	...	...	13,100

C.—BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1925.

The Birth-rate—17.6—is again the lowest on record, being 0.2 lower than in 1917 and 1918.

For England and Wales it is 18.3 against 18.8 last year.

The Death-rate is 13.0. For England and Wales it is 12.2.

There is a very regrettable increase in the Infant Mortality, the figure having gone up to 103 per 1,000 births.

The figures for the five years are :—

			Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Infant Mortality.
1921	...	...	20.9	11.0	105
1922	...	...	19.2	11.5	67
1923	...	...	18.6	9.1	85
1924	...	...	17.7	10.6	57
1925	...	...	17.6	13.0	103

For further “ Vital Statistics,” see Table 2, page 19.

Probably many infants die owing to being immaturely born, consequent on the stress of the economic and housing conditions now prevailing.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The deaths from Pneumonia totalled 19, against 4 last year. This accounts mainly for the unfortunate increase in the Death-rate. Apart from this disease, which took off many children, there is little variation from last year in the causes of death. Cancer shows only one extra.

The Deaths of Infants under one year occurred as follows :—

Burtonwood	...	...	9	Croft	...	...	...	3
Penketh	...	...	1	Rixton-with-Glazebrook	...	...	...	3
Sankey	...	...	1	Foulton-with-Fearnhead	...	...	...	3
Winwick-with-Hulme	...	...	4					

D.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Total Notifications, 168 ; last year, 107.

In line with the rest of the country, perhaps the most outstanding feature of the year has been the abnormal number of infectious cases, both notifiable and non-notifiable.

Among them, Scarlet Fever occupies the foremost place. In this district we record 71 cases as against 29 the previous year, and an average of 41 for the five years.

There were two cases notified from the County Mental Hospital.

SCARLET FEVER.

The greatest incidence was in Burtonwood and Collins Green, from which came 31 notifications, and Poulton-with-Fearnhead with 14.

There was one death in hospital ; this case belonged to Croft.

The epidemics have followed in the wake of similar epidemics in neighbouring towns. Ignorance, negligence and apathy of parents, combined with total indifference on the part of visiting neighbours, have only too frequently led to steady extension of the disease.

During the year, 5 un-notified cases in the peeling stage were discovered.

No. 1 had been away for Christmas and returned by train and tram to her home in Padgate.

No. 2 was found in school during a general examination of scholars owing to an outbreak at Burtonwood.

Nos. 3 and 4 were found playing with other children at Collins Green.

No. 5 was discovered by the Sanitary Inspector at Penketh and was attending school at the time.

The parents were admonished and all patients promptly isolated.

In one family 5 cases occurred. The mother had quite thoughtlessly been visiting with her children a home from which a case was removed to Hospital, and afterwards went several times to the Hospital.

As there were two families living in this small two-bedroomed house, one family of seven and the other of three, overcrowding was marked with no chance of any isolation in the initial illness. The smaller family, however, was removed at the earliest moment.

The subsequent outbreak at Collins Green was linked up with this family.

The outbreak in Poulton-with-Fearnhead seemed to have its origin from one child who attended school up to a day before falling sick. Companions from three homes subsequently developed the disease and others were contacts with these.

Several visits were made to the schools from which any considerable number were absent, and whole classes were subject to medical inspection.

DIPHTHERIA.

The only noticeable feature of this disease was that five cases occurred in one house. The father and a grown-up son and daughter were stricken and removed to Hospital. An examination of two younger children proved them to be affected. The boy was also suffering from Septic Impetigo. One was, or both of these children were, evidently healthy "carriers." The girl, as proved by swab tests, soon cleared, but the boy was very resistant to treatment and many weeks passed before he was returned as negative.

In no case during the year did the disease spread to another household from the notified cases, and only in the one house above-mentioned was there more than one case.

One case in Penketh was connected with a fatal case in Warrington, the father of the dead child taking mid-day meals in the house at Penketh and would seem to have acted as a "carrier." No other source could be traced.

Another swab-positive case, also in Penketh, which occurred in November, seemed to be associated with illness in a "cat." The child had not been away from home for weeks, nor had any visitors likely to have been in contact with the disease been to the house. The parents gave a history of the cat having been ill for about five days before the child began to be ill. It had all the typical symptoms of Diphtheria, including initial vomiting, depressed ill condition, lying by the fire, shivers, a severe croupy cough, and swollen glands in the neck. The child had been nursing the cat many times whilst ill. Unfortunately for investigatory purposes the cat was destroyed a few hours before the notification was received.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

There were three cases of this disease—one at Penketh, one at Burtonwood, and one in a travelling showman's van at Padgate. Two were removed to Hospital, where one died. These cases were promptly notified to the Maternity Department at Preston, and the clothing and instruments of the Midwives disinfected.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA

Two cases were reported. One, a child of two years, died in Hospital; the other, an adult woman, after many weeks in Whitecross Hospital, returned home, but now (eight months later) is still considerably paralysed.

Two cases also occurred in the County Mental Hospital.

All cases of Encephalitis Lethargica were reported with full details of symptoms to the County Medical Officer of Health, at his request.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were seven cases reported—four from Burtonwood. All recovered. One case was sent to Hospital.

The County Mental Hospital reported five cases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases, 24 ; last year, 23 ; with 37 in 1923.

There is a regrettable increase in the number of Pulmonary cases, viz., 19, as against 10 last year, but there is a very satisfactory decrease in Non-pulmonary cases, viz., 5, against 13 last year, and 22 the year before.

As competent authorities consider that infected milk produces a large number of Non-pulmonary cases (joints, bones, glands, &c.), one can quite seriously ask the question : “ Is the closer supervision and taking of samples of milk for bacteriological purposes having the desired effect ? ” It is as yet too early to be dogmatic on the subject, but events seem quite to justify turning thoughts in that direction.

The cost of Tuberculosis work to the County for this district was, in 1924, £690.

One death occurred without previous notification, and the doctor who had attended had the matter brought to his notice.

Another case was notified only three days prior to death, whilst many might with advantage to the patient and others have been notified earlier.

All cases have been well followed up by the County Tuberculosis Officers and Nurses, and, as far as necessary, by your own officials.

A lecture on “ The Prevention of Tuberculosis ” formed part of the “ Health Day ” at Burtonwood.

Whooping Cough, Measles, Mumps and Chickenpox have all been very prevalent during the year. Whooping Cough was especially so in Burtonwood and Orford ; Measles in Penketh, Padgate and Croft ; whilst Mumps was also very prevalent in the latter place in the Autumn. Two deaths occurred from Whooping Cough and two from Measles.

Most of the schools in the District have at different seasons been visited on account of these diseases and handbills distributed to the homes by the children.

Many children in the incipient stage of the diseases were sent home.

INFLUENZA.

This disease seems to be endemic in this part of the country. Every season seems to bring its quota, but particularly the spring and early

summer. In the very early part of the year a severe epidemic among the school children of Padgate occurred.

Sixteen deaths occurred from this cause.

SMALLPOX.

This disease, though getting increasingly prevalent in this country during the last three or four years, has so far not affected this District.

There are, however, a considerable number of unvaccinated children in your area, which give cause for great anxiety. Vaccination and re-vaccination—the only protection of doctors and nurses against Smallpox—are also the only protection of the people. We have no other preventative remedy.

Its efficacy has been emphasised by practically every civilised country in the world, and no country having adopted it has ever abandoned it.

The number of Exemptions from Vaccination shows a satisfactory downward tendency, and for the five years the figures are as follows :—

		Births.	Exemptions.	Percentage of Exemptions.
1921	...	257	80	31.1
1922	...	237	68	28.5
1923	...	234	45	19.0
1924	...	228	51	22.3
1925	...	231	51	22.0

By analogy with the Influenza Epidemic of 1918, Smallpox (described by Lord Macaulay—historian, died 1859, prior to the days of enforced compulsory Vaccination—as “the most terrible of all the ministers of death, always present . . .”) may at any moment assume all its old destructive and loathsome virulence with disastrous consequences to the unvaccinated.

E.—CHILD WELFARE.

The Centre at Burtonwood continues to do very good work. The sessions have been well attended. A very able lecture was given on “Health Day” by Miss Tipper, of Preston, on “The Health of the Mother.” Great interest was manifested and it is probable that good results will follow.

There have been 641 attendances of children and 20 of expectant mothers, an average of 14.7 per session, against 10.4 last year.

The effect of the knowledge disseminated does not end with those attending, but must surely bear some fruit in the families represented by the mothers who attend.

No records are available of the attendance of people belonging to this District at the Welfare Centre at Cadishead, which is now available for residents in Glazebrook and Hollinfare.

The cost of Child Welfare Work was £115, borne by the County.

F.—SANITARY MATTERS AND CIRCUMSTANCES.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

There have been many important improvements in the supply of drinking water during the period under review, and when the supply at present being laid on (February, 1926) in the Township of Rixton-with-Glazebrook is completed the District will compare very favourably with any other rural district in the country for a complete pressure-fed supply of wholesome water.

Sankey, Penketh and Burtonwood have participated in improved supplies during the year 1925.

Only occasional outlying premises in different Townships are now dependant on wells.

The number of samples of water tested during the five years was 27, of which 19 were found to be unfit for domestic use. During 1925 seven samples were taken and all were declared unfit. In five cases the houses were in consequence connected with the mains, and in the others repairs to the well effected. The seven samples were taken from Burtonwood (1), Cuerdley (2 from same well), Martinscroft (1), Penketh (1), and Rixton (2).

G.—RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Mersey forms a large part of the southern boundary of the District. It is tidal in the Cuerdley, Penketh and Sankey Districts, but non-tidal in Poulton, Woolston and Rixton.

Sankey Brook, rising near Upholland, passes through St. Helens and enters the District at Collins Green. It then passes right through the District for about 10 miles, and adds very materially to the drainage of the central part of the area and is tidal for about two miles. It is at all times heavily charged with chemical and sewage matters, which give rise to offensive odours, and strong, dark-coloured deposits along its whole length till it empties itself in the Mersey at Sankey Bridges.

Good flowing brooks assist the drainage in Penketh, Sankey, Burtonwood, Orford, Croft, Poulton-with-Fearnhead, and Glazebrook.

Various trade processes contribute to stream pollution, notably tanning in Penketh and Orford, and brewing at Burtonwood. In all these cases interceptors are used to take out much of the solid matter before entering the streams.

All have been kept under observation, and any nuisance arising therefrom is kept to a minimum. The proprietors of the works have shown every willingness to assist in any way possible.

The brooks in Penketh and Burtonwood are discoloured with coal-washings from Bold and Collins Green. Both have been kept under observation.

H.—DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

One township (Penketh) has a sewerage scheme falling into the tidal portion of the River Mersey. So far this scheme has been satisfactory.

In another township (Burtonwood) the main portion has a scheme of sewerage which is carried through precipitation tanks before being discharged into a stream. This has up to the present been sufficient for the portion of the District.

In other parts of the area most of the drainage and sewage eventually finds its way into streams. In these cases an attempt is made to minimise pollution by use of septic tanks either from single houses or from a number collected into one common sewer. These drains and sewers are, whenever practicable, so arranged that they will be available in the future when a scheme of sewerage is attempted.

All ditches, &c., into which any sewage or other pollution finds its way are from time to time kept clean and free by the Council's men.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AND SCAVENGING.

Particulars of these matters will be found in the " Summary for Reference " later in the Report.

During the five years, 104 privy middens have been converted to 101 pails and three fresh water-closets, and 22 pails to water-closets.

In Burtonwood, Penketh, Sankey, Winwick-with-Hulme, Poulton-with-Fearnhead, and Rixton-with-Glazebrook, scavenging is undertaken by the Council and the cost charged to each Township. In the rest of the District this is done by owners or occupiers, a system found often to be not very satisfactory.

The Warrington Corporation Refuse Destructor is in the Township of Winwick-with-Hulme and frequently gives off offensive odours, notwithstanding that it is well managed. The refuse tip by the Destructor and on the west side of Winwick Road is objectionable through paper and other light litter blowing about. Frequent complaints about this nuisance have been lodged by your Inspector.

I.—SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There has been no action taken by the Council in this matter, but observations have been taken by your Inspector and myself in a few instances, and the attention of manufacturers in the District has been called to any nuisance, after which there has been improvement both as regards smoke and fumes.

Carelessness or indifference on the part of stokers is the chief difficulty, which often means—as employers will admit—financial loss to the firms and unclean air for the people.

The irritation and chronic congestion of the nose and throat (caused by inhaling solid carbon particles, sulphurous gases and tarry matters) form the breeding ground for many diseases, among which may be mentioned bronchitis, pneumonia, tuberculosis, tonsils and adenoids, and catarrhal conditions, which not infrequently lead to diseases of the inner ear with subsequent deafness.

This question of atmospheric impurity is of great importance to the welfare of the people. Familiarity with the evil has diminished the personal perception of it to some extent, but fortunately there are many signs that there is an awakening to its dangers, as well as to the wastefulness of burning raw coal. The use of more gas and electricity and the large scale provision of smokeless fuel—probably best produced at the coal-pit mouth—suggest themselves as being called for in the interests of health, national economy and agriculture, for what we often look upon as “poor land” in the vicinity of manufacturing towns might better be described as “poisoned land.”

J.—SCHOOLS.

There are Council Schools (Mixed and Infants) at Burtonwood, Penketh, Sankey and Croft ; Church of England Schools at Orford, Padgate, Winwick, Woolston and Hollinfare ; and Roman Catholic Schools at Burtonwood, Croft and Woolston.

There is also a large Boarding School in Penketh controlled by the Quakers.

All the schools have an adequate water supply, and the sanitary condition is well maintained, but naturally the old schools of Burtonwood, Orford, Padgate, Hollinfare, Croft and Woolston R.C. have not the facilities and conveniences of the modern schools.

All the schools are frequently visited by your Inspector and myself.

Any epidemic of infectious or contagious disease in any school is the occasion for special visits. Personal inspection of all the scholars, or, in some cases, particular classes, has led to the discovery of peeling scarlet fever cases, diphtheria “carriers,” incipient measles, mumps and chicken-pox, and scabies, impetigo and ringworm infected cases.

School closure was only resorted to once in 1925, when the Croft R.C. School was closed for one week, as much on account of the illness of the staff as for mumps, which was then prevailing.

The exclusion of scholars (unprotected from any particular disease by a previous attack) from infected homes, has been the mode of procedure, and in practice is found to work well. The periods of “exclusion” have been in accordance with “The Memorandum on Closure and Exclusion from School, 1925.”

HOUSING.

Parish and Population (1921 Census)	General Housing Conditions.	Extent of Shortage.	Measures taken to meet shortage, viz., New Houses.	Information as to Changes of Population, 1920-25	Overcrowding.	
					Extent. 1	Causes. 2
Burtonwood (2,383)	Rows of Houses in main streets quite good, but many outlying Houses very damp and frequently dilapidated.	Very considerable.	6	Little change.	Very Frequent	Shortage of houses for newly married couples, and lodgers employed at the Collieries.
Croft (944)	A few modern Houses but mainly old cottages and old farm houses.	Considerable.	7	Little change.	Frequent	Shortage for newly married couples.
Cuerdley (105)	One row of cottages, several farm houses and cottages, and a few other. Conditions—fair.	Not pronounced.	None	Little change.	None Noticed	
Houghton- with- Myddleton (223)	Scattered farms, and cottages mostly semi-detached, without damp courses.	Not pronounced.	None	Little change.	None Noticed	
Poulton-with- Fearnhead (1,650)	Mostly middle and working class, and a few farm and better class. A number of old cottages.	Considerable.	30	Considerable increase, mainly of those employed in Warrington.	Frequent	Invasion from Warrington.
Penketh (1,847)	Several large houses, many medium. Rows of fairly modern cottages, and some of older type; a few very old.	Marked.	9	Steadily increasing.	Fairly Frequent	Invasion from Warrington and Works extension.
Sankey (1,598)	Several large and many medium houses, mostly semi-detached or bungalows. Good rows of workmen's houses at Warrington end.	Not pronounced.	34 mostly bungalows.	Considerable increase, mainly of persons employed in Warrington.	Occasional	Invasion from Warrington.
Rixton-with Glazebrook (1,059)	Very various; all classes of houses, some very old. Only a few with modern conveniences.*	Considerable.	None	Increasing, but would be rapid if houses were available.	Occasional	Overflow of work-people engaged in Cadishead and Irlam.
Winwick-with- Hulme (1,869)	Very various; all classes in Winwick, but mostly semi-detached, bungalows or rows in Orford.	Not so marked for old residents and families.	37	Rapidly increasing.	Occasional	Invasion from Warrington & enlargement of works
Woolston-with- Martinscroft (451)	Mostly farms and cottages, some very old; damp courses rare.	Not pronounced.	6 mostly bungalows.	Steadily increasing.	Fairly Frequent	Invasion from Warrington & enlargement of works

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The general standard of houses in the Area can only be described as fair, owing to the dilution of a large number of excellent houses by many of a very old type which in more propitious times would be condemned as unfit for habitation.

The general character of the defects are old and decayed walls and plaster, defective windows and floors, badly constructed chimneys and roofs, and absence of damp course.

The deterioration has in many cases been increasing rapidly since the War, probably not due to lack of desire to improve on the part of property owners, but owing to the enormously increased cost both of materials and labour.

Many cases could be found where the tenants themselves are neglectful or even destructive.

The only sanitary condition which would seem to affect the housing question is probably the absence of sewerage schemes, particularly in parts of Poulton-with-Fearnhead and Orford (Winwick-with-Hulme).

The need for greater air-space around houses and the prevention of houses being erected right on to the footpath is more important now than formerly, owing to increased noise and dust nuisances from more rapid road transport.

With the increased construction of new houses of a very limited cubic capacity, there has sprung up a practice of constructing, after the Surveyors have given a certificate of habitation, wooden erections over the back-door for the keeping of mangles, washing utensils, bicycles, and even animals, &c. This erection only too frequently encloses the main gully, thus bringing it practically inside the house, and often covers up half or more of the window of the very room used most as a living-room, namely, the kitchen. Ventilation is interfered with, but perhaps equally serious is the fact that the sun's rays—acknowledged to be Nature's greatest disinfectant, and our greatest preventative of rickets and other diseases of childhood—are excluded from the very room in which children are being reared. Let us have the houses cast on a plan sufficient to begin with to meet the needs, or prevent the surreptitious erection after occupation of such buildings as would not in the first place have been sanctioned.

L.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Being largely an agricultural district, the milk supply is wholesome and distribution satisfactory.

No licences have been granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, but some dealers are now retailing "bottled" milk. The simple "bottling" of milk without "grading" or "pasteurising" does not guarantee purity or quality, but at any rate it is educating the public to the fact that "safe" milk can be procured as soon as the public is willing to pay a little more for it. The extra keeping quality of such milk, apart altogether from its "safety," more than justifies a little extra cost, and milk is still our cheapest food. Milk is one of the best and completest foods possible, especially for the young, and its consumption should steadily increase now that the public can feel assured that Health Authorities are doing all possible to secure a milk free from harmful elements. As a nation we are a long way behind many others in the amount consumed per head, much to our detriment.

MEAT.

The three private slaughter-houses are visited weekly by the Inspector, and, when required, by the Medical Officer of Health.

Many visits have been made to private premises as a result of notices of intention to slaughter "given under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924."

Condemned carcasses, three in number, were sent to a knacker's yard for destruction.

Shops where meat is sold are visited frequently and vehicles conveying meat are watched. The conditions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, have been complied with satisfactorily.

There are no public slaughter-houses.

The sanitary condition of bakehouses and other premises where foods are manufactured are kept under observation. No cause for complaint has arisen.

The Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917, are administered by the Police. Reports of any action taken are not available.

M.—HEALTH DAY.

A Health Day—in the absence of the possibility of a Health Week in a district composed of detached villages—was held at Burtonwood in October, and the hall accommodating some 200 people was full both in the afternoon, when an address was given on "The Health of the Mother," and in the evening, when a lantern lecture on "The Prevention of Tuberculosis," was given. The Teachers of the Day Schools heartily co-operated in the idea, and by introducing musical items and a short play by the children the event was freely talked about and many parents were present as a result. Interest in Maternity, Child Welfare, and other Health matters was undoubtedly stimulated.

THE NEED OF DISTRICT NURSES.

Perhaps one of the greatest needs of the District from a "health" point of view is the provision of more adequate and efficient nursing in the homes. However good the intention of untrained, well-meaning relatives may be, it cannot equal that of the trained nurse, and doubtless much suffering would be saved, and even lives spared, if all could have in their homes the equal of the skill and knowledge of the trained nurse, such as is found in our Hospitals and Nursing Homes. It would seem that wherever there is a population of 1,000 to 1,500 there should be at least one fully trained district nurse. The magnificent work done by Nursing Associations in our towns only serves to emphasise the loss from which every parish in your area suffers.

There must almost everywhere be some ladies in a position to organise nursing arrangements. The help of such would be eagerly welcomed, and such assistance as is possible would be given.

N.—THE WEATHER.

Throughout the year the weather was seasonable. January cold but dry, little fog or frost. February very wet, low temperature. March wet and windy, followed by a succession of moderate frosts. April fine and bright, rainfall light, fairly warm. May cool and rainy. June and July exceptionally fine, bright and hot, very little rain. August mainly fine but somewhat low temperature, some heavy rains. September dull and cheerless, much rain, low temperature. October very wet, temperature above the average. November, exceptionally dry, but for two days' heavy rain, followed by 10 days' intermittent fog, low temperature, much frost, but no snow. December first two weeks very bright, clear, frosty and dry, a few days warm, and again a succession of dry frosts.

The list of subsequent Tables is as follows :—

Table 1.—General Statistics.

„ 2.—Vital Statistics.

„ 3.—Causes of Death.

„ 4.—Parish Distribution of Births and Deaths.

„ 5.—Ten Years' Average „ „

„ 6.—Deaths of Residents outside the District.

„ 7.—Comparative Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality, 1925.

„ 8.—Notifiable Diseases.

„ 9.—Tuberculosis.

„ 10.—Infectious Diseases—Parish Distribution.

„ 11.— „ „ —Monthly Incidence.

„ 12.—School Tables.

„ 13.—Infectious Diseases—Rate per 1,000 for Ten Years.

„ 14.—General Provision of Health Services, &c.

I should like to thank the School Teachers and Attendance Officers for much valuable information and assistance regarding school sickness, and also to express my appreciation of the willing assistance given by your Clerk, the Surveyor's Department, and especially your Sanitary Inspector, whose Report is appended hereto.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES BENNETT,

Council Offices,
Museum Street,
Warrington.

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	18,955
Population (Estimated 1926)	13,100
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1921)	2,627
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1921)	2,627
Number of New Houses erected in 1925	129
Rateable Value, 1925	£111,123 0 0
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1925	£463 0 3

Note.—The Rateable Value has increased as follows :—

1923.	1924.
£105,145	£108,892

The Penny Rate has increased as follows :—

£438	£453
------	------

I am indebted to the Clerk to the Warrington Union for the information that the amount of Poor Law Relief (money and kind) for the year 1925 was £1,691 12s. 6d., divided as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Houghton, Myddleton and Arbury	5	0	0
Poulton-with-Fearnhead	175	0	0
Rixton-with-Glazebrook	185	0	0
Southworth-with-Croft	85	0	0
Winwick-with-Hulme	110	0	0
Woolston-with-Martinscroft	10	0	0
Penketh	410	11	11
Sankey	213	12	6
Cuerdley	11	18	6
Burtonwood	485	9	7

In 1920 the amount was £923 18s. 10d.

Three hundred and one new houses have been erected during the last five years, as follows :—

	By Private Enterprise.	By Subsidy.	Amount of Subsidy.
1921 ...	24	—	—
1922 ...	20	17 (Loans)	£4,300
1923 ...	28	—	—
1924 ...	10	73	£5,475
1925 ...	12	117	£8,775

TABLE 2.
VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Births in 1925 ...	231	127	104
Deaths in 1925 ...	173	85	88

PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Rate of deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births.
Mean of 5 years—				
1895-1899 ...	27.5	13.6	0.83	128
1900-1904 ...	26.5	12.8	0.62	118
1905-1909 ...	23.7	11.8	0.45	104
1910-1914 ...	22.4	12.3	1.18	100
1915-1919 ...	19.3	13.5	0.99	92
1920-1924 ...	20.2	10.8	0.64	78
Year—				
1924 ...	17.7	10.6	0.62	57
1925 ...	17.6	13.2	0.76	103
Increase or decrease in 1925 on—				
Mean of 5 years				
1920-1924 ...	—2.6	+2.4	+0.12	+25
Previous year ...	—0.1	+2.6	+0.14	+46
Mean of 10 years—				
1915-1924 ...	19.7	12.1	0.81	85

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.—231 notifications were received during the year. Of these, 9 were notifications of still-births—Burtonwood 4, Poulton-with-Fearnhead 1, Penketh 1, Woolston 1, Winwick 1, and County Mental Hospital 1. Four cases were not notified until enquiries were made after the receipt of the Registrar's returns ; in each case the attention of the doctor or nurse, or both, was called to the omission. There were seven illegitimate births notified.

TABLE 3.
LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH ISSUED BY THE
REGISTRAR-GENERAL (CIVILIANS ONLY).

						Males.	Females.
	ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	85	88
1.	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0
2.	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	0	0
3.	Measles	...	...	...	...	0	2
4.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1	0
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	2	0
6.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0	0
7.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	6	10
8.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	1	0
9.	Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
10.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	2	8
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	1
12.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	6	12
13.	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	0	1
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	0
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	...	6	6
16.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	4	10
17.	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	2	5
18.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	5	6
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	13	5
20.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	2
21.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	0	0
22.	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)...	...	...	...	...	0	1
23.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
24.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	0	0
25.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	2	4
26.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	0	1
27.	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy						
	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	0	0
28.	Congenital Debility and Malformation,						
	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	6	2
29.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	3	1
30.	Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	...	...	5	0
31.	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	19	11
32.	Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	...	...	...	...	0	0
	Deaths of Infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	14	10
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	0	0

TABLE 4.

PARISH DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1925.

	Popu- lation 1921 Census	Death Rate per 1,000 of Popu- lation	BIRTHS	DEATHS.													TOTAL 1925	1924		
				Whoop- ing Cough	Influ- enza	Pneu- monia	Tuber- culosis	Cancer	Scarlet Fever and Measles	Cere- bral Haem- orrhage	Heart Disease	Arterio- sclerosis	Bron- chitis	Nephri- tis	Prena- ture birth, &c.	Vio- lence			Parturi- tion	Other Diseas's
Burtonwood ...	2383	17.2	72	1	2	4	6	3	...	3	5	...	4	1	2	3	...	7	41	31
Cuerdley ...	105	19.0	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	1
Houghton-with- Myddleton ...	223	22.4	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	...
Poulton-with- Fearnhead ...	1650	13.9	31	1	2	3	1	2	...	2	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	6	23	16
Penketh ...	1847	13.0	24	...	1	4	1	4	1M	1	3	2	2	...	...	1	...	4	24	18
Sankey ...	1598	11.3	16	...	2	3	...	3	...	1	3	2	...	...	1	...	...	3	18	15
Southworth-with- Croft ...	944	15.9	12	...	1	...	1	1	{ 1SF 1M }	4	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	4	15	14
Winwick-with- Hulme ...	1869	12.3	39	...	1	2	1	2	...	3	2	...	2	...	1	2	1	6	23	22
Woolston-with- Martinscroft ...	451	15.5	10	...	1	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	7	...
Rixton-with- Glazebrook ...	1059	14.1	26	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3	...	5	15	11
Totals ...	...	...	*231	2	12	19	11	18	3	18	14	5	14	6	4	9	1	38	173	137

*In addition there were two births in the County Mental Hospital.

TABLE 5

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1925.	1925.
Death	10.9	12.8	16.4	13.2	12.2	11.0	11.5	9.1	10.6	13.0
Birth	22.6	17.8	17.8	19.0	24.8	20.9	19.2	18.6	17.7	17.6

The Death-rate from Notifiable Infectious Diseases in 1923 was 1.11 not including Pneumonia, and 2.15 including Pneumonia. In 1924, it was 0.8 not including Pneumonia, and 1.1 including Pneumonia. In 1925, 1.09 not including Pneumonia, and 2.5 including Pneumonia.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Year.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.
1922	...	9	...	3
1923	...	8	...	1
1924	...	8	...	1
1925	...	10	...	1

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR = 24

TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN DISTRICT.

Total Deaths registered in the District ...	...	...	...	342
Deduct Deaths in County Mental Hospital...	...	...	198	
„ „ of other Non-residents	...	...	4	
			—	202
Nett Deaths of Residents registered in the District ...	...	...	140	
Add transferable Deaths (<i>i.e.</i> , Residents dying outside the District)			33	
Total Deaths of those belonging to the District ...	...	...	173	

INQUESTS ON RESIDENTS.

Feb. 24.—Male.	Age. 56.	Hollinfare.	Suicide.	Found drowned.
		in tub.		
May 13.—Male.	59 years.	Orford.	Hanged.	Found dead.
July 18.—Male.	72 years.	Penketh.	Coal-gas poisoning.	
June 1.—Female.	34 years.	Rixton.	Suicide.	
July 23.—Male.	47 years.	Winwick.	Killed by express train.	

INQUESTS ON NON-RESIDENTS.

April 21.—Male.	52 years.	Warrington.	Found drowned.
July 16.—Male.	24 years.	Warrington.	Found drowned.
Dec. 4.—Male.	31 years.	Bradford, Manchester.	Killed by motor.

TABLE 6.

DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OCCURRING OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT.

Male.	Age 2.—	Penketh.	Whitecross Hospital.	Encephalitis Lethargica.
Female.	Age 55.—	Penketh.	Warrington Infirmary.	Strangulated Hernia.
Female.	Age 93.—	123, Crescent Road,	Crumpsall.	Senility.
Male.	Age 3.—	Croft.	Aikin Street Hospital.	Scarlet Fever.
Female.	Age 37.—	Orford.	Whitecross Hospital.	Puerperal Fever.
Female.	Age 60.—	Padgate.	42, Edge Lane, Liverpool.	Nephritis.
Male.	Age 74.—	Winwick.	Whitecross Hospital.	Morbus Cordis.
Male.	Age 29.—	Burtonwood.	St. Helens.	Fractured Spine. (Colliery accident.)
Female.	Age 33.—	Sankey.	Whitecross Hospital.	Broncho Pneumonia.
Male.	Age 68.—	Burtonwood.	Whitecross Hospital.	Chronic Bronchitis.
Male.	Age 31.—	Burtonwood.	Warrington Infirmary.	Peritonitis.
Female.	Age 59.—	Penketh.	Whitecross Hospital.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage.
Male.	Age 73.—	Penketh.	Whitecross Hospital.	Pneumonia.
Female.	Age 75.—	Penketh.	Whitecross Hospital.	Carcinoma of Breast.
Male.	Age 55.—	Burtonwood.	St. Helens Hospital.	Accident. (Run over by horse and cart.)
Male.	Age 23.—	Burtonwood.	Eccleston Hall Sanatorium.	Pul- monary Tuberculosis.
Male.	Age 12½.—	Penketh.	Bold.	Influenza.
Male.	Age 60.—	Burtonwood.	St. Helens Hospital.	Broncho Pneumonia.
Male.	Age 69.—	Penketh.	12, Beach Lawn, Waterloo.	Diabetes Carbuncle.
Male.	Age 5.—	Sankey.	Warrington Infirmary.	Acute Appen- dicitis.
Male.	Age 57.—	Sankey.	Whitecross Hospital.	Broncho Pneumonia.
Male.	Age 26.—	Burtonwood.	St. Helens Hospital.	Accident. (Colliery.)
Female.	Age 55.—	Penketh.	Whitecross Hospital.	Cancer.
Female.	Age 69.—	Woolston.	Whitecross Hospital.	Influenza.
Male.	Age 63.—	Padgate.	Whitecross Hospital.	Cancer.
Male.	Age 68.—	Orford.	Whitecross Hospital.	Chronic Bronchitis.
Male.	Age 40.—	Hollinfare.	Partington Steel Works.	Accident.
Male.	Age 5 months.—	Orford.	Whitecross Hospital.	Marasmus.
Male.	Age 1 month.—	Rixton.	Warrington Infirmary.	Hæmophilia.
Male.	Age 6 hours.—	Winwick.	Whitecross Hospital.	Premature birth.
Male.	Age 36.—	Croft.	Whitecross Hospital.	Intestinal obstruction.
Female.	Age 68.—	Padgate.	Warrington Infirmary.	Nephritis.
Male.	Age 63.—	Rixton.	Whitecross Hospital.	Cancer.

TABLE 7. BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1924, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1923. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH- RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.		
		All Causes	Enteric Fever.	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years).	Total Deaths under one year.	Causes of Death certi- fied by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.	
England and Wales	18'3	12'2	0'01	0'00	0'13	0'03	0'15	0'07	0'32	0'47	8'4	75	92'1	6'9	1'0	
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	18'8	12'2	0'01	0'00	0'17	0'03	0'18	0'09	0'30	0'43	10'8	79	92'1	7'3	0'6	
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000).	18'3	11'2	0'01	0'00	0'15	0'02	0'14	0'06	0'31	0'38	7'6	74	93'0	5'9	1'1	
London	18'0	11'7	0'01	0'00	0'08	0'02	0'19	0'11	0'23	0'46	10'6	67	91'1	8'9	0'0	
Warrington R.D.	17'6	13'0	0'00	0'00	0'15	0'07	0'15	0'00	1'22	0'68	4'3	103	93'0	5'2	1'8	

TABLE 8.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Number of cases of infectious disease notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1925 :—

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED.												Hospital.	
	Total Cases at all Ages.	YEARS										Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District.
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over.	
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	15	...	...	...	1	3	5	2	2	1	1	1	...	...
Erysipelas	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	3	...
Scarlet Fever	71	2	3	5	6	35	12	1	1	1	...	...	...	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	46	3	2	3	6	6	1	3	7	7	6	5	4	...
Acute Influenzal	19	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	7	3	3	2	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms of	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...
Totals	168	6	5	10	7	14	45	21	9	21	12	10	7	48
													41	3

COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL NOTIFICATIONS.

Scarlet Fever	0 males, 2 females
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	22
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	4
Erysipelas	1
Pneumonia	23
Encephalitis Lethargica	1
Cough, Diarrhoea (under 2 years) and Chicken-pox	1

Total 105; last year 42.

Measles, German Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea (under 2 years) and Chicken-pox have not been compulsorily notifiable. Of the above cases removed to Hospital 22 went to the Warrington Fever Hospital, 13 to Newton Fever Hospital, and 6 to Whitecross Hospital.

TABLE 9.—TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.			NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.										
0—1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1
5—10	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	..	...
10—15	...	...	...	2	1	..	...	...	...	...
15—20	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...
20—25	...	...	1	2	1	..	2	...	...	...
25—35	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	3	..	...
35—45	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
45—65	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	..	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Totals	...	...	5	14	3	4	2	8	..	1
			19		7		10		1	

The deaths from Tuberculosis occurred as follows :—

Burtonwood	...	...	...	...	...	6
Orford (Winwick-with-Hulme)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houghton-with-Myddleton	...	...	...	...	...	1
Croft	...	...	...	...	...	1
Poulton	...	...	...	...	...	1

What is the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths?—One.

In your opinion, is the notification of tuberculosis in your district efficient?—No, often unduly late. One only three days before death.

Has any action been taken in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify?—Doctor spoken to.

Is there any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district?—Excessive incidence and mortality in families at Burtonwood, where most of the males are colliers.

TABLE 10. INFECTIOUS DISEASES. PARISH DISTRIBUTION.

PARISH.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	TUBERCULOSIS.		Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Paratyphoid Fever	Puerperal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Enceph Lethargica	TOTAL 1925	TOTAL 1924
			Pulmonary	Non-Pulm.								
Burtonwood	31	8	7	2	16	4	...	1	...	...	68	23
Cuerdley	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Houghton-with-	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
Myddleton	...	...	3	2	3	...	...	...	...	1	21	12
Penketh	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poulton-with-	14	1	2	...	6	1	...	1	...	...	25	10
Fearnhead	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Rixton-with-	6	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	9	2
Glazebrook	10	2	1	...	7	1	...	...	...	...	21	18
Sankey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	10
Southworth-with-	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Croft	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Winwick-with-	5	...	4	...	3	...	...	1	...	1	14	23
Hulme	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Woolston-with-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Martinscroft	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	71	15	19	5	46	7	...	3	...	2	168	107

TABLE 11. MONTHLY TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATIONS.
(Not including the County Mental Hospital.)

MONTH.	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas	Typhoid	Ophthal Neonatorum.	Influenza & Pneumonia	Puerperal Fever.	TUBERCULOSIS.		Enceph. Lethargica.
								Pulmonary	Non-Pulmon.	
January	2	3	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...
February	1	...	1	...	...	4	...	...	1	1
March	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	4	...	...
April	...	4	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	...
May	2	3	1	...	...	6	...	3	...	...
June	5	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1
July	1	10	1	...	...	3	...	3	...	...
August	1	18	...	...	...	3	1	3	1	1
September	...	11	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...
October	1	10	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
November	2	4	...	...	...	6	...	2	...	...
December	...	3	2	...	...	9	...	1	...	...
Total ... 168	15	71	7	...	...	46	3	19	5	3

TABLE 12.
SCHOOL TABLES.

	Accommodation.	1923.	1924.	1925.	
		Average Perc'ntage Att'dance.	Average Perc'ntage Att'dance.	Average No. on Books.	Average Perc'ntage Att'dance.
Burtonwood Council	366	88.5	88.9	271	86.2
Burtonwood R.C.	256	89.9	89.9	197	87.0
Croft Council	170	87.4	89.3	114	83.2
Croft R.C.	74	89.6	90.4	33	86.2
Hollinfare C.E.	193	87.4	84.0	141	87.8
Orford C.E.	272	93.2	92.7	242	91.5
Padgate C.E.	326	91.2	92.1	307	88.7
Penketh Council	350	87.5	92.1	216	88.9
Sankey Council	315	88.5	88.8	209	89.8
Winwick Council	193	89.0	90.3	144	89.3
Woolston C.E.	119	91.1	94.6	132	93.9
Woolston R.C.	119	86.8	90.7	36	90.4

TABLE 13.
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Proportion of Notified Cases to Population (excluding Pneumonia).

Year.	Population	Cases.	Rate per 1,000.
1914	14999	142	9.5
1915	10903	143	13.1
1916	10597	65	6.1
1917	10728	52	5.0
1918	10629	92	8.6
1919	11164	70	6.3
1920	11603	54	4.7
1921	12260	101	8.2
1922	12320	80	6.5
1923	12530	74	5.9
1924	12830	68	5.3
1925	13100	122	9.3

TABLE 14.
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospital Accommodation provided or available :—

For Smallpox : Corporation of Warrington Smallpox Hospital, Great Sankey.

For other Infectious Diseases : Warrington and Newton-in-Makerfield Fever Hospitals, Warrington and Earlestown.

Joint or otherwise : Otherwise, i.e., by arrangement of fees per case, with a retaining fee as regards the Smallpox Hospital.

Number of Beds available for your District :—For Smallpox : As required. For other Infectious Diseases : As required.

Is there any Hospital Accommodation in the District for :—(a) Tuberculosis—No ; (b) Maternity Cases—No, but Whitecross (Warrington Union) Hospital now available; (c) Children—No.

Postal Address of Union Infirmary and any other Public Institution in District :—County Mental Hospital, Winwick ; Cottage Homes (Union), Padgate ; Warrington County Borough Smallpox Hospital, Sankey.

Have any of the following been provided in your district ? :—Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children—No. Maternity and Child Welfare Centres—Yes, at Burtonwood, Tuesdays, 10 to 12 a.m., and Cadishead Centre, available for Rixton-with-Glazebrook, Wednesday afternoons. Day Nursery—No. School Clinic—No. Tuberculosis Dispensary—No. Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre—No.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—(a) For Infectious Cases : Warrington Corporation and Newton Urban District Council; (b) for Non-infectious and Accident Cases : Warrington Infirmary, Warrington Union and Police.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.—James Bennett, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. Is he a whole or part-time Officer ?—Part-time. Any other public appointments held by him—Public Vaccinator to Warrington Board of Guardians.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.—Frank W. Kerfoot. Is he a whole-time Officer ?—Yes. Any other Public Health Officers, such as Health Visitors and Special Nurses : None.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.—Arrangements in the District for—(a) General nursing, None; (b) for Infectious Diseases, e.g., Measles, &c., None.

Is there a *District Nursing Association* in the District ?—No.

How many District Nurses employed ?—None.

Has any local scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and Milk for *Expectant and Nursing Mothers*, and of Milk for Infants ?—Arrangements were made, but these are now undertaken by the County Authorities.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.—Specify any—General Adoptive Acts :
Contageous Diseases (Animals) Act, 1886 ; Dairies, Cowsheds
and Milkshops Order, 1885—August 2nd, 1889.

Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889—

Public Health Act (Amendment) 1890, Section 23, Sub-Section 1—
January 12th, 1909.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890—

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Sections 15, 16, 17,
18, 22, 23, 29, 32 and 33—September 30th, 1909.

Offensive Trades : Public Health Act, 1875, Sections 112, 113
and 114—

Public Health Act, 1925 (recently adopted)—April 12th, 1926.



MIDWIVES.—Is any Midwife employed by or assisted by the Local Authority? No.—Number of Midwives on the County Council Register, 31/12/1925, on Register, 5 ; actually practising, 5. Comments as to the sufficiency or otherwise of the midwifery service?—Not sufficient if it were not supplemented by a number of Midwives residing in Warrington, Widnes, Earlestown and Cadishead.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.—Specify any—Local Acts : None. Local Orders : None. Bye-laws relating to public health : New buildings and common lodging-houses. Observations as to their administration : Administered if and when required.

Particulars as to co-operation with—The medical and ancillary services of the National Health Insurance : No direct connection. The Voluntary Hospitals : None. The Poor Law or other agencies : Arrangements made with the Whitecross Hospital for Maternity cases and Poor Law cases.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY?—Warrington and Liverpool Corporations, and locally a few wells. Constant or intermittent?—Constant. Approximate number of dwelling-houses supplied?—Direct, 2,667 ; by stand-pipe, about 30. Possibilities of contamination?—Negligible, except that wells have to be closely watched. Any liability to plumbosolvent action?—No. Any insufficiency, and where?—Part of Cuerdley and southern end of Burtonwood. Nature of extensions (if any) during the year?—Parts of Sankey, Penketh and Burtonwood.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams. Sources and nature?—No legal action. All polluted ditches are cleaned out by Council's workmen.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.—Method of Treatment?—Burtonwood Precipitation. In other parts individual septic tanks. What is the character of the Drainage System?—Gravitation in socket pipes. Any developments during year?—No. Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system?—Poulton-with-Fearnhead and Winwick-with-Hulme. Action taken—Drain Testing, Flushing, &c.?—Carried out by Inspector.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AT END OF 1925.—Privy Middens : No. of Middens, 508; No. of Closets attached to these Middens, 508; No. of Pail Closets, 1,875; No. of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens), very few left; No. of Fresh Water Closets, 788; No. of Movable Ashbins for refuse, about 1,500; No. of Waste Water Closets, 13. Conversions—No. of Privy Closets to Fresh W.C.'s, during year 1925, None; during five years 1921-1925, 3; to Waste W.C.'s, 1925, None; 1921-1925, None; to Pails, &c., 1925, 47; 1921-1925, 101. No. of Pail Closets to Fresh W.C.'s, 1925, 16; 1921-1925, 22; to Waste W.C.'s, 1925, None; 1921-1925, None. No. of Waste W.C.'s to Fresh W.C.'s, 1925, None; 1921-1925, None. No. of Houses at which Movable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles, 1925, 47;

1921-1925, 104. Is there any definite policy at the present time for abolishing Privy Middens and Pail Closets?—Yes, steady pressure is being constantly applied to get property owners to convert to W.C.'s if practicable. Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion?—No. What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for new property—Fresh W.C.'s.

SCAVENGING.—Character and efficiency of the arrangements for Scavenging and Removal and Disposal of House Refuse for whole of district?—Undertaken by Council in Burtonwood, Sankey, Penketh, Poulton-with-Fearnhead, and Winwick-with-Hulme. By owners or occupiers elsewhere. How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses)?—Contracts by Council. Private arrangements in other cases. Are motor vehicles used?—No. If Privy Middens exist, are they emptied by day or night?—By day. How is the Refuse disposed of?—On agricultural land or tips. Has a Destructor been provided?—No.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1925.—No. of premises visited : 2,000. Defects or nuisances : No. discovered, 308; No. abated, 242. No. of Notices served : Informal, 10 ; Statutory, 100. Legal proceedings, None.

SMOKE NUISANCE.—Any special action taken with regard to smoke abatement : Manufacturers have been approached when necessary, and genuine attempts invariably made to diminish the nuisance. No. of Observations : 12. No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result : None. What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour?—2 minutes per half-hour.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—No. : 6. Character : Tanning and Animal Bye-products. Action taken or needed : Periodically visited; no legal action.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.—What is their condition?—Good.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Number, None.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.—Action taken or needed : None.

SCHOOLS.—Sanitary condition : Well maintained, some schools old and ill-adapted. Water Supply, &c. : Adequate.

CANAL BOATS.—Number Inspected : 6. Number of Infringements of Acts : 2.

HOUSING.

(I.) GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE AREA :—

(1) General housing conditions : Fair, many very old, damp houses to be found, but there are a large number of modern houses of all classes. (2) (a) Extent of shortage or excess of houses : General

shortage, most pronounced in Burtonwood. (b) Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage : None by Council. (3) Information as to any important changes in population during the period under review or anticipated in the future : Considerable increases in Orford (Winwick-with-Hulme), Sankey, Penketh, Poulton-with-Fearnhead, and some in Woolston-with-Martinscroft.

(II.) OVERCROWDING :—

(1) Extent : Marked in Burtonwood, considerable in most other parts. (2) Causes : Inability to pay economic rents for new property, with need for residing near work. (3) Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding : Encouragement of building by "Subsidy." (4) Principal cases of overcrowding during the year 1925, and action taken : No legal action, several told to seek other accommodation ; several did so.

(III.) FITNESS OF HOUSES :—

(1) (a) General standard of housing in the area : Average for Rural Areas. (b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses : Want of damp course, walls old and dilapidated. (c) How far defects are due to the lack of proper management and supervision by owners, or to acts of waste or neglect by tenants : Owners often unwilling to spend money owing to excessive cost of repairs ; tenants occasionally neglectful. (2) General action taken as regards unfit houses under—(a) The Public Health Acts : 48 houses reported as defective; Inspections frequently made. (b) The Housing Acts : No action. (3) Difficulties found in remedying unfitness, either under the Public Health Acts or under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 : Excessive cost of repairs and inability to get skilled workmen in country places. Special measures taken or suggested :—(a) Any special action to secure improved management of property by owners : None. (b) Better care of property by tenants : Frequent warnings. (c) The gradual carrying out of repairs according to agreed arrangements : Constant prompting of negligent owners. (d) Any special method of dealing with unfit back-to-back houses, or other types of insanitary property : None. (4) Conditions so far as they affect housing, as regards—(a) Water supply : No deficiency. (b) Closet accommodation : Good on the whole. (c) Refuse disposal : Satisfactory when done by Council. (d) Measures taken during 1925 as regards (a), (b), and (c) : (a) Houses connected with mains in Sankey, Penketh and Burtonwood ; any doubtful cases tested. (b) Many conversions by owners.

(IV.) UNHEALTHY AREAS :—

Information as to complaints received or representations made and action taken, in regard to unhealthy areas : None.

(V.) BYELAWS relating to Houses, to Houses Let in Lodgings, and to Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c. :—

(1) As to working of existing byelaws : Satisfactory where applicable. (2) As to need for new byelaws or revision of existing byelaws : Byelaws being re-drafted.

(VI.) GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS :—

Generally, an account of any action bearing on the public health, not covered by the above particulars, which has been taken during the year by the Local Authority in connection with overcrowding, insanitary property, and housing, whether under the Housing Acts or the Public Health Acts, including any action taken by the Authority to provide information as to the proper use of household fittings (e.g., sinks, water-closets, &c.) and the disposal of household refuse so far as possible by burning : Advice constantly being given as to care of household fittings and burning of refuse. The latter more honoured in the breach than in the performance.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.—(a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b), 129. (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—(i) by the Local Authority, Nil ; (ii) By other bodies or persons, 117. No. of houses in course of erection under Council's building scheme, Nil.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE for purposes of increasing housing accommodation.—Have any advances been made during 1925 (a) by loans?—None. (b) by subsidy?—Yes. Number, 117. Amount of subsidies, £8,775.

UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.—Inspection—(1) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) : None. (2) No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 : 46. (3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation : None. (4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3)) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation : 45.

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.—No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers : None.

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS—

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied : 48. (2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices : (a) by Owners, 38 ; (b) by Local Authority in default of Owners, None.

* Refers only to action taken in reference to housing defects. Notices with regard to drainage and other defects should be included under Sanitary Administration.

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 : None.

D.—No. of houses demolished voluntarily by Owners, or converted to workshops, &c. : None.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—Observations on—

(1) The wholesomeness of the milk produced within or brought into the district : Quite satisfactory. (2) The general adequacy of the arrangements for the supply and distribution of milk of pure and wholesome character : Supply and distribution satisfactory, mostly produced in the district. (3) The administration of The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and The Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders : In full operation ; samples regularly taken for Tuberculosis and appropriate action taken when required. Close supervision of all cowsheds and dairies.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1923.—Number of Dealers' Licences issued during 1925 in respect of : "Certified" Milk, None ; "Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)" Milk, None ; "Grade A" Milk, None. No. of Licences issued in respect of "Pasteurised" Milk : Pasteurising Plants, None ; Retail Distributors, None. Types of apparatus licensed for the pasteurisation of milk : None.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—Are they periodically inspected?—Yes. What is their condition?—Fairly good. Give date of the Regulations made under the Order of the L.G.B. : Aug. 2nd, 1889. Are they enforced?—Yes. Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow :—(a) Where cows are habitually grazed : No Regulations in force. (b) Where cows are *not* habitually grazed : No Regulations in force. Cowkeepers : Total Number of Cowkeepers, 66 ; No. on Register, 66 ; No. of Inspections during year, 170. Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers) : Total No. of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors, 19 ; No. on Register, 19. Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows? Give particulars : Now carried out by County Council. Prior to Sept. 1st, 1925, veterinary surgeon employed when required. Action taken as to—(i) Tuberculous Milk : Producers prohibited from selling from cows affected. (ii) Tuberculous Cattle : One slaughtered (after Sept. 1st, 1925). No. of samples of milk obtained during 1925 for bacteriological examination : 24. Results of bacteriological examination : Two found to contain tubercle bacilli.

(b) MEAT.—Observations on—

(1) Meat inspection (including arrangements for inspection at the time of slaughter and for marking under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924 ; disease in meat and arrangements for disposal of condemned meat : All cases notified, many inspections made ; marking not in operation ; all diseased meat was surrendered and removed to

destructor. (2) Administration of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, as regards stalls, shops, stores, and vehicles: Constant inspection of shops, vehicles, and stalls. (3) Has a public slaughter-house been provided?—No.

(c) OTHER FOODS :—

Action taken in respect of places where food is prepared—Bake-houses: Number, 3; Condition, Good. Other Premises: Three Chip-Shops, all visited. Amount of food condemned or surrendered during 1925 as unfit for human consumption—Tuberculous carcasses and parts: 1,680lbs. Diseased, unsound, or unwholesome meat (other than above): None. Other foodstuffs: None. No. of Legal Proceedings and result: None. Food Poisoning? Action taken (if any): Arsenical poisoning from apples; stocks withdrawn at once from sale; special reports to Ministry of Health and Lancashire County Medical Officer of Health. Action taken by Local Authority (if any) in respect of—(i) Sale of Food and Drugs Acts: Carried out by County Council. (ii) Condensed Milk Regulations, 1923: Carried out by County Council. (iii) Dried Milk Regulations, 1923: Carried out by County Council. (iv) Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912-17: Carried out by County Council.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.—Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria unusually prevalent in 1921 and 1922, and Scarlet Fever in 1925, particularly in Burtonwood. Epidemics usually found to be extensions from neighbouring towns and spread by ignorance, or indifference, or apathy, in some cases all combined.

Diphtheria anti-toxin: Always available and every case treated with anti-toxin. Is supply kept within the district?—Yes. If so, where?—Burtonwood, Penketh, Poulton and Hollinfare.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—Any special occurrence: Two cases occurred; one died, one still partially paralysed eight months after attack.

Scarlet Fever.—Discovery of “return” cases: Three homes were affected with “return” cases after first case returned from Hospital.

Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, and Trench Fever.—Experience in regard to these diseases: Pneumonia was prevalent in early summer and late autumn; many cases probably not notified. Other diseases: Nil.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations: Arrangements with Warrington Health Department. No. of specimens examined in 1925: Blood, Nil; Sputum, 3; Throat Swabs, 32 (11 positive), exclusive of swabs tested in Hospitals; Swabs for Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 0; Others, Nil.

Action taken in regard to (a) Contacts, (b) Return cases, (c) Carrier cases: (a) Children contacts kept to their own homes. (b) Return cases usually sent to Hospital. (c) Carriers (one diphtheria only found) isolated till free from infection.

Has any use been made of the tests known as the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases?—No.

Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.—No. of Vaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health : (a) Primary, None ; (b) Re-Vaccinations, None. 1925 : Vaccinations performed by others, 150 ; Exemptions, 51.

If any of the following diseases compulsorily notifiable in district : Measles, No ; Whooping Cough, No ; Diarrhoea (under two years), No ; Chicken-pox, No ; any others, the usual group.

Number of times School Closure adopted during 1925 for—Scarlet Fever, None ; Whooping Cough, None ; Diphtheria, None ; Chicken-pox, None ; Measles, 1 (one week only, largely owing to illness of Staff) ; Influenza, None.

Influenza.—Observations on any special inquiries undertaken in connection with epidemics : Schools were visited during epidemics and scholars surveyed. Two schools were disinfected on Friday evenings.

Has any special attention been given to (a) Cancer, (b) locally contracted Anthrax, and (c) Rabies?—No.

DISINFECTION.—Number of Houses disinfected during 1925, 85. Method (state disinfectant used)—Formaldehyde Fumigators. Are Houses disinfected after (a) Phthisis, Yes ; (b) Measles, No. Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise) : Washington-Lyon Steam Disinfector. Number of Articles disinfected : No record kept. Where is Apparatus situated?—Warrington Fever Hospital. If Apparatus at Hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of Clothing, Bedding, &c., of Patients *not* removed to the Hospital?—Yes, when required. Any arrangement for bathing verminous, &c., persons?—No. In how many instances has disinfestation been carried out?—None.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.—Any action taken under this Section : None. Number of applications for compulsory removal to Hospital : None. Number of cases in which Orders were granted : None.

NOTABLE SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS DURING 1925.—Water supplies Burtonwood, Penketh and Sankey. Sewers extended in Burtonwood, Penketh, Sankey, Winwick, and Poulton-with-Fearnhead. 47 privies converted to pails, and 16 pails to fresh water-closets. Completion of surfacing streets, &c., at Burtonwood.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF DISTRICT.—More adequate water supply in Cuerdley and small portion of Burtonwood. Want of sewage system at Poulton-with-Fearnhead and Orford.

(Signed),

JAMES BENNETT,

Medical Officer of Health.

May 3rd, 1926.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE WARRINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I again have the pleasure of presenting to you my Annual Report of Nuisances and other matters dealt with during the year 1925.

The chief sanitary improvements which have taken place are :— The extension of water main to houses in Barrow Hall Lane, Great Sankey ; Brook Farm, Penketh ; and Old Bradley Hall Farm, Burtonwood. 47 privy closets converted to pail closets, and 16 pail closets converted to fresh-water closets. Sewers have been extended in Burtonwood, Penketh, Sankey, Poulton, and Winwick.

There is still some difficulty in getting sanitary matters attended to, as Contractors do not appear to want work such as repairs in Rural Districts.

The number of informal notices served for the abatement of nuisances was 10 ; statutory, 100 ; nuisances abated, 242. No legal proceedings were taken.

The approximate number of privy middens is 508 ; closets attached, 508 ; pail closets, 1,875 ; portable receptacles, 1,500 ; fresh-water closets, 788 ; waste water closets, 13 ; dry ashpits (excluding middens), very few left ; privies converted to fresh-water closets, none ; to waste water closets, none ; to pail closets, 47 ; number of pail closets converted to fresh-water closets, 16 ; waste water closets to fresh-water closets, none.

Houses disinfected, 85 ; bedding removed to Warrington for disinfection, 12 lots.

Samples of water submitted for analysis, 7 ; unfit for domestic purposes, 7.

Petroleum Licences granted, 20.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924.

There are three Registered Slaughter-houses and one Licensed Knackers' Yard in the Council's Area. They are visited practically every week—only one being extensively used. One has been overhauled, repaired and brought more up-to-date. A good supply of water is available, and on the whole they are kept fairly clean. Three carcasses were found to be badly affected with Tuberculosis. They were condemned and destroyed. Weight of carcasses condemned, 1,680lbs.

236 Horses were slaughtered at the Knackers' Yard for human consumption—the meat being exported to Antwerp. A special slaughter-house is provided on the premises for this purpose. Not a single carcass was found to be affected with Tuberculosis.

A large number of notices to slaughter pigs were received from residents in the District, but it is not possible to inspect all the carcasses, for in some cases the pigs at the farms and cottages are slaughtered in the evening—the old type of country butcher appears to have died out.

A large number of Inspections have been made both by your Medical Officer of Health and myself. In a number of cases the pigs are removed alive, and slaughtered in Warrington.

There are a few stalls in this area from which meat is sold, and eight shops, viz. :—Burtonwood, 2 ; Fearnhead, 1 ; Penketh, 2 ; Sankey, 1 ; Southworth-with-Croft, 1 ; and Rixton, 1.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922 ; MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915.

24 Samples of Milk were submitted for Bacteriological Examination, with the following results :—Tubercle Bacilli found, 2 ; Cows found and slaughtered, 1 ; Cows removed and not slaughtered, 1. The latter case was prior to September 1st, 1925.

The number of Cowkeepers and Milk Producers on the Register is 66. Dairymen and Purveyors of Milk other than Cowkeepers, 19.

They are visited regularly, and I regret to say that in a number of cases neither the cows nor cowsheds are kept as clean as they might be. The bedding is scanty, and, I should say, shortage of labour for the grooming of the cows. However, we must still press for an improvement.

One new Cowshed has been erected and four others overhauled and repaired.

HOUSING INSPECTION OF DISTRICT REGULATIONS, 1910.

Number of Dwelling-houses inspected, 46 ; number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were found, 45 ; number of Houses in which defects were remedied, 40 ; number of Dwelling-houses of which Closing Orders were made, none.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories ...	30	1	None.
Workshops ...	82	2	None.
Total ...	<hr/> 112	<hr/> 3	<hr/> None.

DEFECTS FOUND.

Nuisances under Public Health Acts :—Want of cleanliness, 2 ; accumulation of offensive matter, 1 ; remedied, 3.

OUTWORKERS.

Lists received from Employers, none ; Local Authorities, 2.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Bakehouses, 2 ; Blacksmiths, 6 ; Toolmakers, 11 ; Boot Repairing, 3 ; Motor-Car Repairs, 5 ; Cask-making, 2 ; Sheet Metal Works, 1 ; File Cutters, 3 ; Bituminous Solution, 1 ; Hamper-makers, 3 ; Wheelwrights, 4 ; total number of Workshops on Register, 41.

CANAL BOATS ACT.

There are still very few boats plying on the Sankey and St. Helens Canal. Six boats were inspected on my rounds through the District. Two of them had been recently purchased and were not registered. I found them registered for 13 persons, and the numbers found totalled :— Males, 9 ; Females, 3 ; Children, 1. In two cases there were no double bulkheads for carrying offensive cargoes. In other respects the cabins were clean, and no cause for complaint.

FRANK W. KERFOOT,

Inspector.